

An Overview of the Codes and Standards Organizations *About ASTM International*

NIST Workshop on Building
Codes and Standards for
Concrete and Cement
9 - 13 December 2002

About ASTM International in General

- Established in 1898
- Approximately 165 staff
- Purpose: To develop and distribute standards and related information in response to market needs

Scope of Work

- ASTM develops, publishes, and distributes voluntary, consensus standards for materials, products, systems, and services for approximately 100 market sectors
- ASTM publishes 12,000 standards annually in both printed and electronic form

Relevance to the Codes

- ASTM standards, particularly material specifications and test methods, are frequently cited in the codes (1600 citations in the codes)
 - We share information among mutual members and technical experts
 - Changes in the standards are decided by new technology and new processes in the markets
 - The new technology is included in the codes through the citation of the standards
- ASTM and the code bodies have had a long and mutually beneficial relationships at both the technical and executive levels

Membership Composition

- Active technical membership – ~ 20,000
 - ASTM's active members represent over 100 nations
 - All members, regardless of nationality, may participate in the development, review, and application of ASTM standards
 - ASTM has offices in:
 - West Conshohocken, PA USA – International headquarters
 - Hitchin Herts, UK
 - Mexico City, MEXICO
- Classes of membership
 - Participating
 - Informational

To Encourage International Participation

- ASTM encourages international participation through
 - Electronic tools to foster participation regardless of location
 - Seminars and workshops in various countries
 - Memoranda of Understanding
 - Delegation visits
 - Membership promotion

To Encourage International Participation

- Tools that are available to facilitate participation include
 - Electronic balloting
 - Electronic draft forums
 - General and “Members Only” web pages
 - Web pages in Spanish, Chinese and Japanese that are under construction
 - A database to facilitate:
 - Search capability for any work item or approved standards
 - Automatic notification of new work items and approved standards
 - Summary of current status of any work item

Revenue Sources

- Revenue of \$32 million (FY 2001)
 - Publications - \$ 24.5 million (75%)
 - \$20.0 million from standards
 - \$4.5 million from related publications
 - Member fees - \$2.5 million (8%)
 - Services – \$2.5 million (8%)
 - Miscellaneous – 2.5 million (8%)

Publications

- Types of publications
 - Standards (specifications, test methods, guides, terminology, classifications, practices)
 - 12,000 and growing
 - Published annually
 - Each standard is published in hard copy and electronic format
 - Related publications
 - Technical journals
 - Compilations
 - Special Technical Publications - resulting from symposia

Related Programs

- Related programs
 - Educational services
 - Technical and Professional Training
 - Intensive, practical and focused training on standards application
 - Symposia
 - Original scientific research, exchange of information, informative discussions
 - Proficiency /cross-check program
 - Statistical quality assurance programs enabling laboratories to assess their performance in conducting test methods within their own laboratories by comparing data against other laboratories that participate worldwide
 - ASTM does not conduct testing, certification or accreditation

General Contact Information

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